

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the first paragraph beginning at line 17 of page 2 with the following paragraph with the amendments and deletions as shown:

The disadvantages of the prior art are overcome by the device of the present invention which is a first aid hand puppet to be used to soothe a child's bumps and bruises. The hand puppet can be in different animal or character shapes such as a bunny, dog or cat, or in the shape of a popular, recognizable "character" or configured as a doll. In the stomach area of the puppet, a pouch or pocket, is provided (the "belly pouch") that is sealed by an appropriate hook and loop fasteners, such as those sold under the trademark VELCRO®. A cold pack or a heating element can be inserted into the belly pouch of the puppet. The puppet can then be worn on the hand of an adult with the heat or cold pack sitting in the palm of the hand of the adult for better control and ease of use. The puppet then, on the hand of the adult, can be placed snugly over the injured area of the child, or on the forehead of a feverish child, by the adult gently grasping or cuddling the child's injured skin area. When the injury has been treated, the cold pack or heating pack can be removed from the puppet and the puppet can be once again used as a toy for the child. In this manner, the child becomes familiar with the toy and may be less fearful of using the heating or cold pack that is hidden within the puppet during stressful times, such as during injury or illness.

Please replace the first full paragraph beginning at line 6 of page 4 with the following paragraph with the amendments and deletions as shown:

Referring now to Fig. 2, a portion of the puppet is illustrated as puppet portion 20. The puppet portion 20 has a belly pouch 24 into which an item 26 is received. The item 26 is preferably a cold gel pack, a block of a re-freezable flexible ice pack sold under the trademark Blue Ice®, or another previously frozen ice pack device, each of which are readily available commercially. The cold pack can be removed from the freezer and placed within the pouch 24. Alternatively, heating pads or packs, which can be microwaved, are also available commercially. In addition, the heating pad may be the type of air-activated device in which once the packaging is open, the exposure to air causes the device to begin heating. A heating device 26 can be placed within the pouch 24 of the puppet 20 and then the puppet can be held in the adult's hand and the child's injured skin area can be hugged and warmed thereby.

Please replace the second full paragraph beginning at line 16 of page 4 with the following paragraph with the amendments and deletions as shown:

In order to secure the pouch 24 in a closed position, a suitable fastener is employed to retain the item 26 within the pouch 24. In accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention, the fastener is comprised of hook and loop fasteners, such as those sold under the trademark VELCRO®. As illustrated in Fig. 3, the puppet 30 includes the pouch 34 that houses the heating or cooling element 36 and is fastened by a hook and loop fastener strip 38, such as that sold under the trademark VELCRO® [[strip 38]], which on one end will have a loop-type configuration and at the other a mesh that securely engages the loops. Other types of fasteners, such as snaps and the like may be used while remaining within the scope of the present invention. The entire assembly can

then be used to provide treatment to traumatic injuries to particular body areas and to provide comfort or cooling in other non-injury situations.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 3 of page 5 with the following paragraph with the amendments and deletions as shown:

It should be understood that the hand puppet may be made of any number of appropriate materials such as that of plush toys or soft cotton or other flexible materials that allow the transfer of the hot or cold through the material. Alternatively, a portion of the puppet may be comprised of a material that allows temperature transfer of the hot or cold [[could be inserted within]] through the pouch area 14 such that the temperature delivery will occur and the remainder of the puppet 30 could be comprised of a plush or other soft material.